JOHN THOMPSON

First Grade

ETUDES

Twenty-four studies for the development of fingers, wrist and forearm; employing five-finger groups, broken chords and examples in phrasing.

Price $ 1.00

THE WILLIS MUSIC COMPANY
CINCINNATI, OHIO

Supplementary Material
for use with
JOHN THOMPSON'S MODERN COURSE FOR THE PIANO

FIRST GRADE ETUDES

Twenty-four studies for the development of fingers, wrists, and forearm; employing five-finger groups, broken chords and examples in phrasing.

By

JOHN THOMPSON

THE WILLIS MUSIC COMPANY
Cincinnati, Ohio

PREFACE

THIS book is intended to lay a foundation in technique for the FIRST GRADE piano student. It is also designed to promote reading. The author has kept in mind constantly the fact that all examples, even technical exercises, must be tuneful if the young pupil's interest is to be retained.

Only elementary pianistic figures have been employed, built for the most part on five-finger groups (the fore-runner of the scale) and broken triads (preparation for extended arpeggios to follow later on). Properly used, the book becomes at once a means of developing *Independence*, *Strength* and *Evenness of Finger Action*, together with *Reading and Expression*. Examples in *Phrasing*, *Wrist Staccato* and the use of the *Forearm* have been included.

While the book is planned to supplement John Thompson's FIRST GRADE BOOK, it will be found adaptable for use in connection with any first grade method or material.

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– PRACTICE RECORD –

(Pupil's Signature) (Teacher's Signature)

Record of Scales and Broken Chords Studied and Grade Earned

DATE	SCALES	GRADE
	BROKEN CHORDS	

– PRACTICE RECORD –

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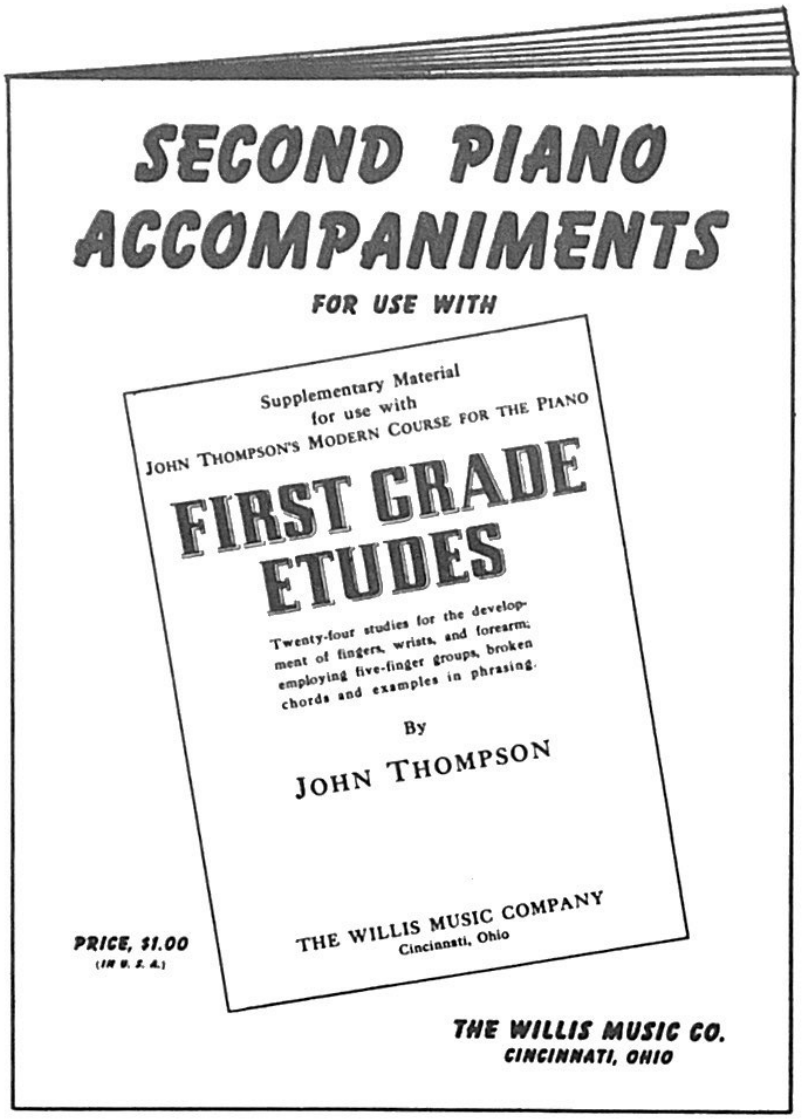
Record of Scales and Broken Chords Studied and Grade Earned

DATE	SCALES	GRADE
	BROKEN CHORDS	

Enjoy Fun and Training

playing

TWO-PIANO DUOS


SECOND PIANO ACCOMPANIMENTS
FOR USE WITH
Supplementary Material
for use with
JOHN THOMPSON'S MODERN COURSE FOR THE PIANO
FIRST GRADE ETUDES
Twenty-four studies for the development of fingers, wrists, and forearm; employing five-finger groups, broken chords and examples in phrasing.
By
JOHN THOMPSON
THE WILLIS MUSIC COMPANY
Cincinnati, Ohio
PRICE, $1.00
(IN U. S. A.)
THE WILLIS MUSIC CO.
CINCINNATI, OHIO

The Second Piano parts in the above book will serve to brighten the exercise period and at the same time make recital numbers of these FIRST GRADE ETUDES played by the pupil. The accompaniments are more elaborate and therefore somewhat more difficult than the etudes in the pupil's part, and should be played either by the teacher or an older pupil.

Use of Second Piano Parts is a valuable addition to any teacher's equipment.

THE WILLIS MUSIC CO. • CINCINNATI, OHIO

Assume proper hand position.
Keep fingers nicely curved.
Use gentle, but firm touch.

The Gypsy Caravan

(Finger Legato)

John Thompson

Con moto

1.

mp

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Roll off the phrases.
Play with as much
expression as possible.

Sunshine and Shadow

(Broken Chords)

Gracefully

2.

mp

G

Em

p

mf

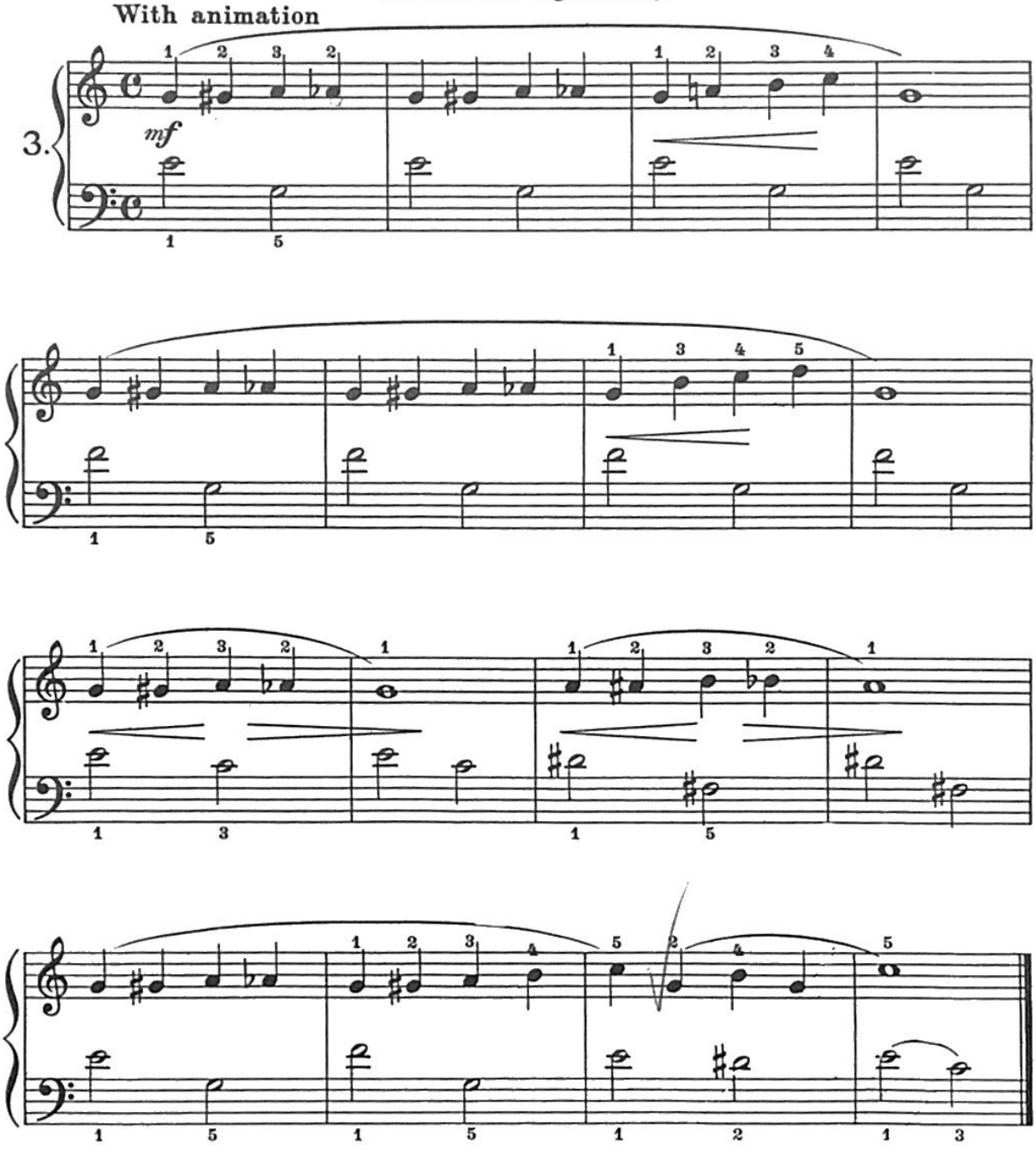
mp

Assume proper playing position.
Raise and drop fingers with
military precision.

Ocean Tides

(Chromatic Progressions)

With animation



Cross the left hand over gracefully.
Try to make the cross-hand notes
sound like bells.

Evening Bells

(Broken Chords and Left Hand over)

Molto legato

4. *mp*

l. h. over

l. h.

Give exact value to quarter notes and eighth notes. Observe all accents.

A Voyage of Discovery

(Finger Legato and Phrasing)

Legato

5.

mf

f

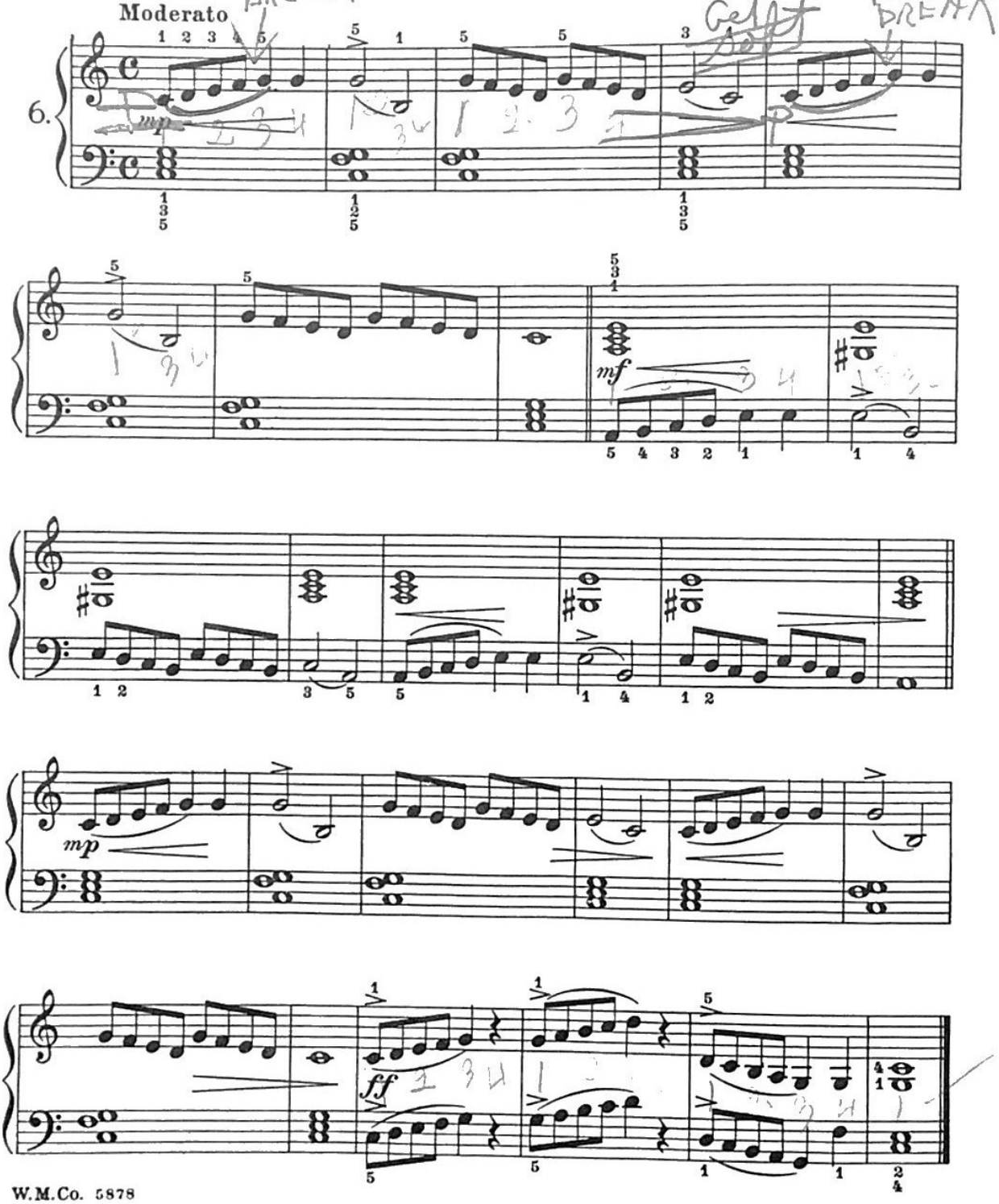
mf

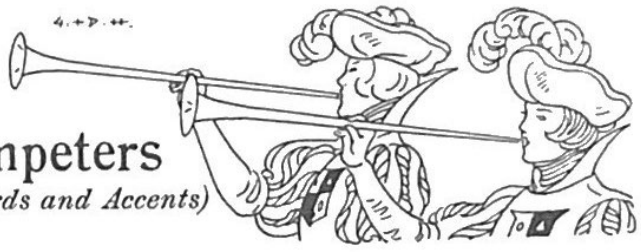
ff

Apply smooth finger legato.
Observe the phrasing.

Wind Mills

(Five-Finger Groups)

Moderato

Sharp distinction between legato and staccato. Rather heavy accents.



Trumpeters

(Broken Chords and Accents)

Rhythmically

7.

f

Play as smoothly as possible. Try to imitate the drone of the spinning wheel.

Spinning Wheel

(Right Hand Finger Legato)

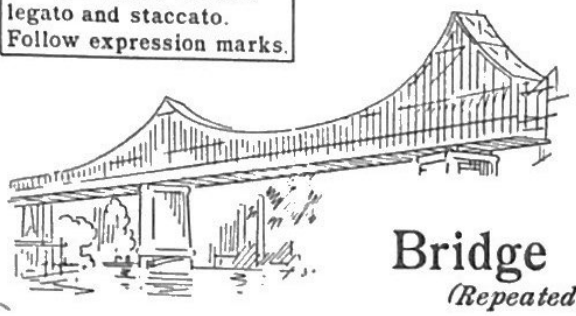
Strict legato

8.

mp

1. 2.

Sharp contrast between legato and staccato. Follow expression marks.



Bridge Building

(Repeated Patterns)

Moderato

9.

mp *p*

mf *p* *l. h. over*

mf *p*

mf *p* *l. h. over*

Use loose, bouncing wrist attack.
Play lightly to imitate rain drops.

Rain-drops

(Wrist Staccato)

Molto staccato

10.

p

1. 2.

l. h. over

Try to suggest the ease and grace of a swimming fish.

Gold Fish

(Scales divided between both hands)

Animato

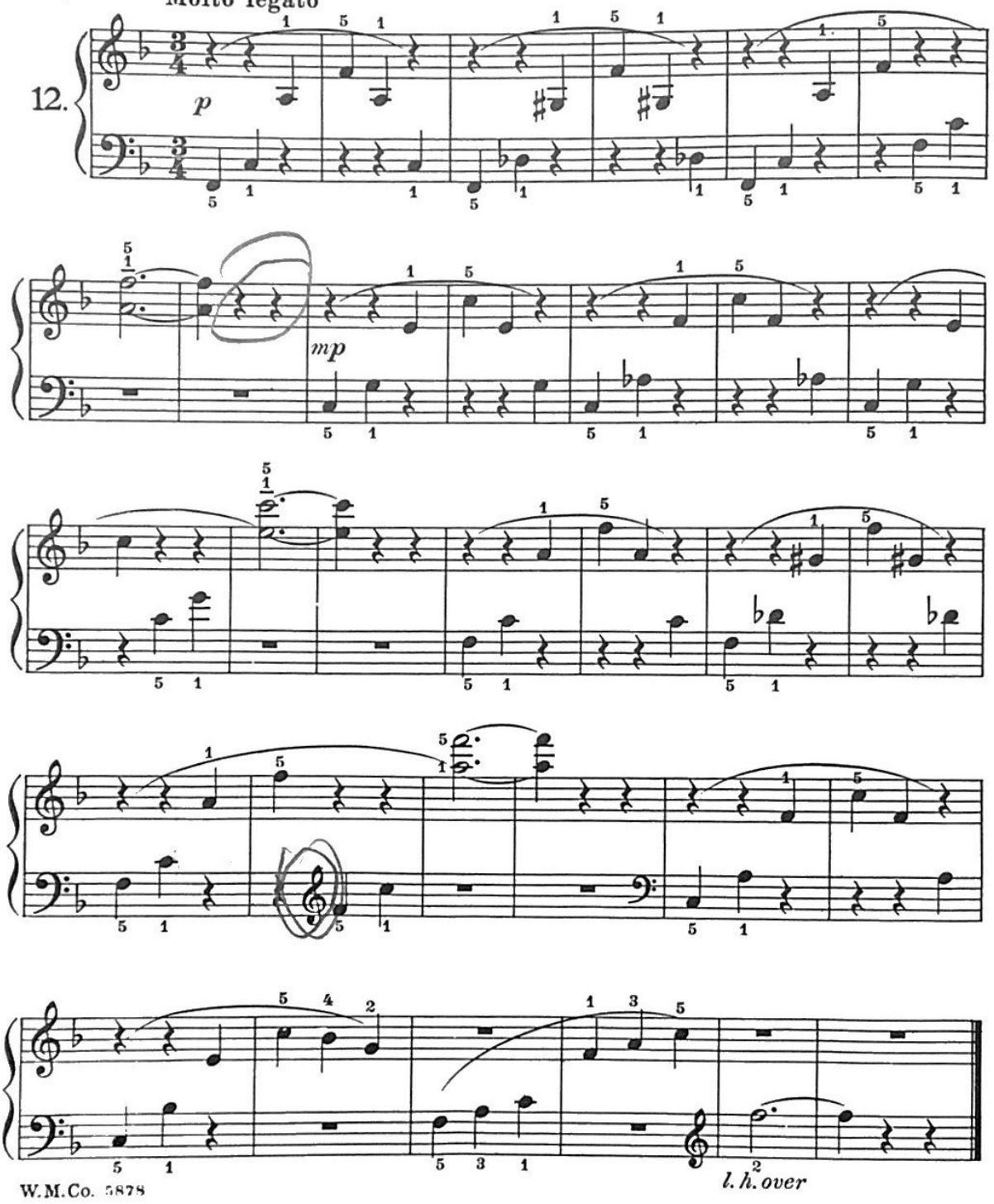
11.

Keep an unbroken legato and play with as much expression as possible.

The Lonesome Pine

(Extended Broken Chords)

Molto legato

12.

Sharp contrast between staccato and legato. Observe all accents.

In a Jaunting Car

(Staccato and Legato)

Cheerfully

13.

mp

Preserve good, firm touch throughout.
Apply accents as indicated.

The Chariot Race

(Finger Independence and Eveness)

Legato

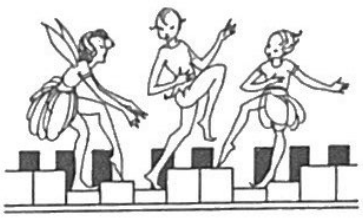
14.

mp

Fine

D.C. al Fine

Apply the drop, roll touch to all two-note slurs.



At the Fairies' Ball

(Two-note Phrases)

Sharp phrasing

15.

mf

mf

Try to scamper over the keys with the ease and precision shown by chipmunks.

Chipmunks

(Interlocking Patterns and Trills)

With eveness

16.

mf

Graceful phrasing with attention given to expression marks.

A Romp in the Country

(Phrasing Groups)

Playfully

17.

mf *mp*

fz *mp* *f*

Observe staccato and accents in imitation of Cuckoo.

The Cuckoo

(Staccato, Accents and Scales)

Strict tempo

18.

p *mf*

p *f*

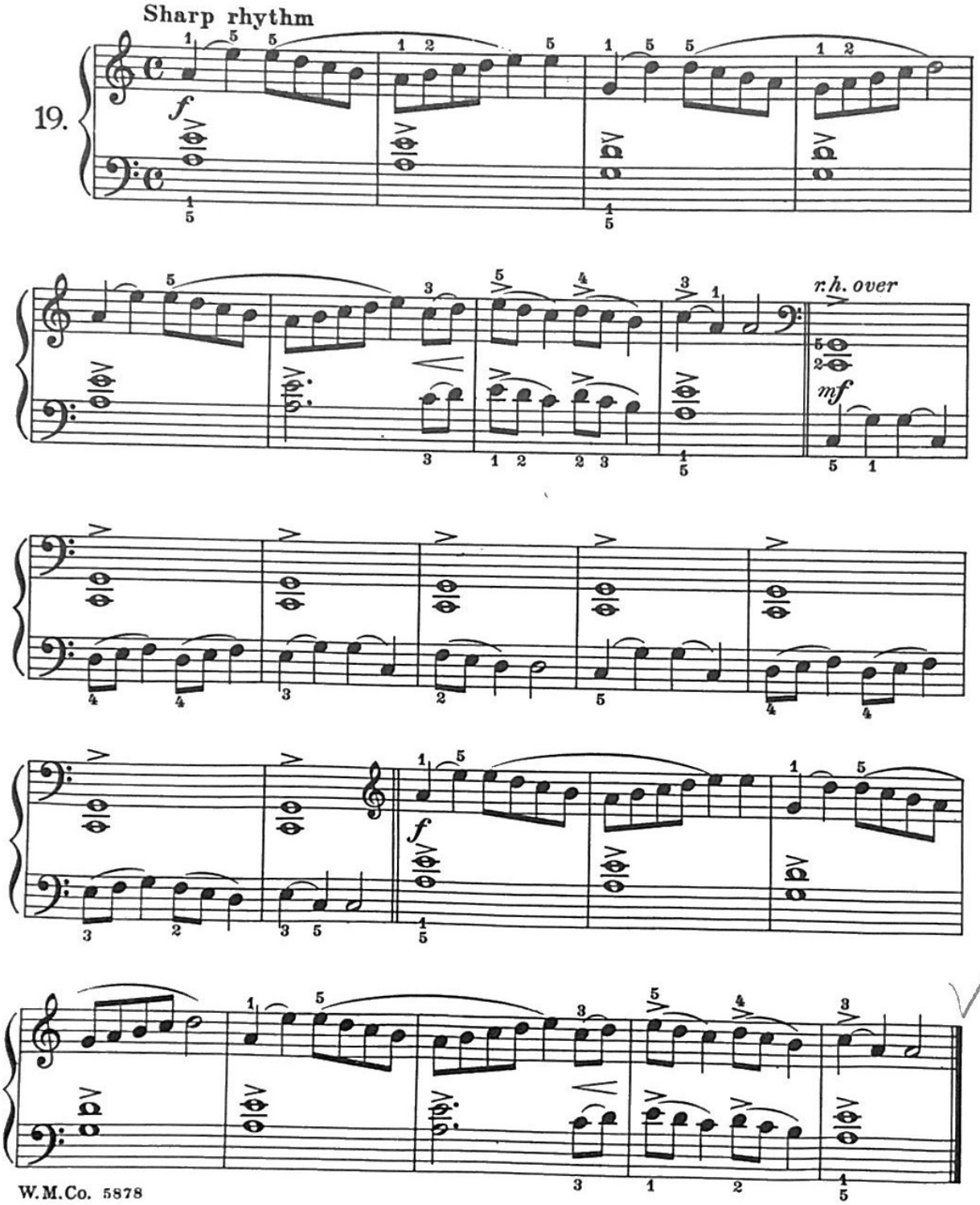
l.h. over

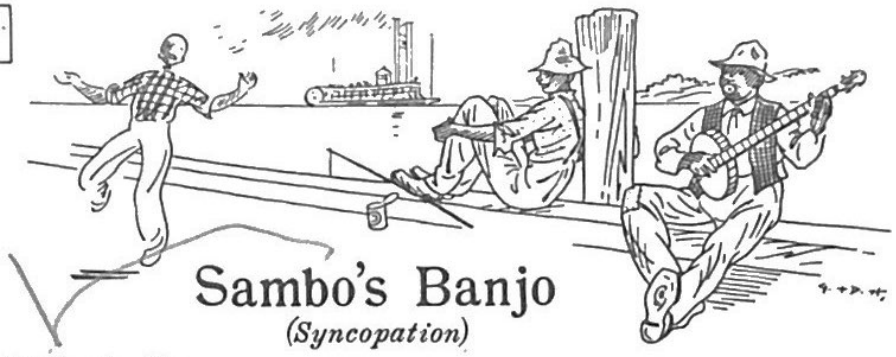
Emphasize the drone effect of the bass in imitation of Irish bag-pipes.

On an Irish Green

(Finger Legato, Phrasing and Melody Playing)

Sharp rhythm

19.

A study in syncopation.
Observe all accents.



Sambo's Banjo

(Syncopation)

Very rhythmically

20.

f

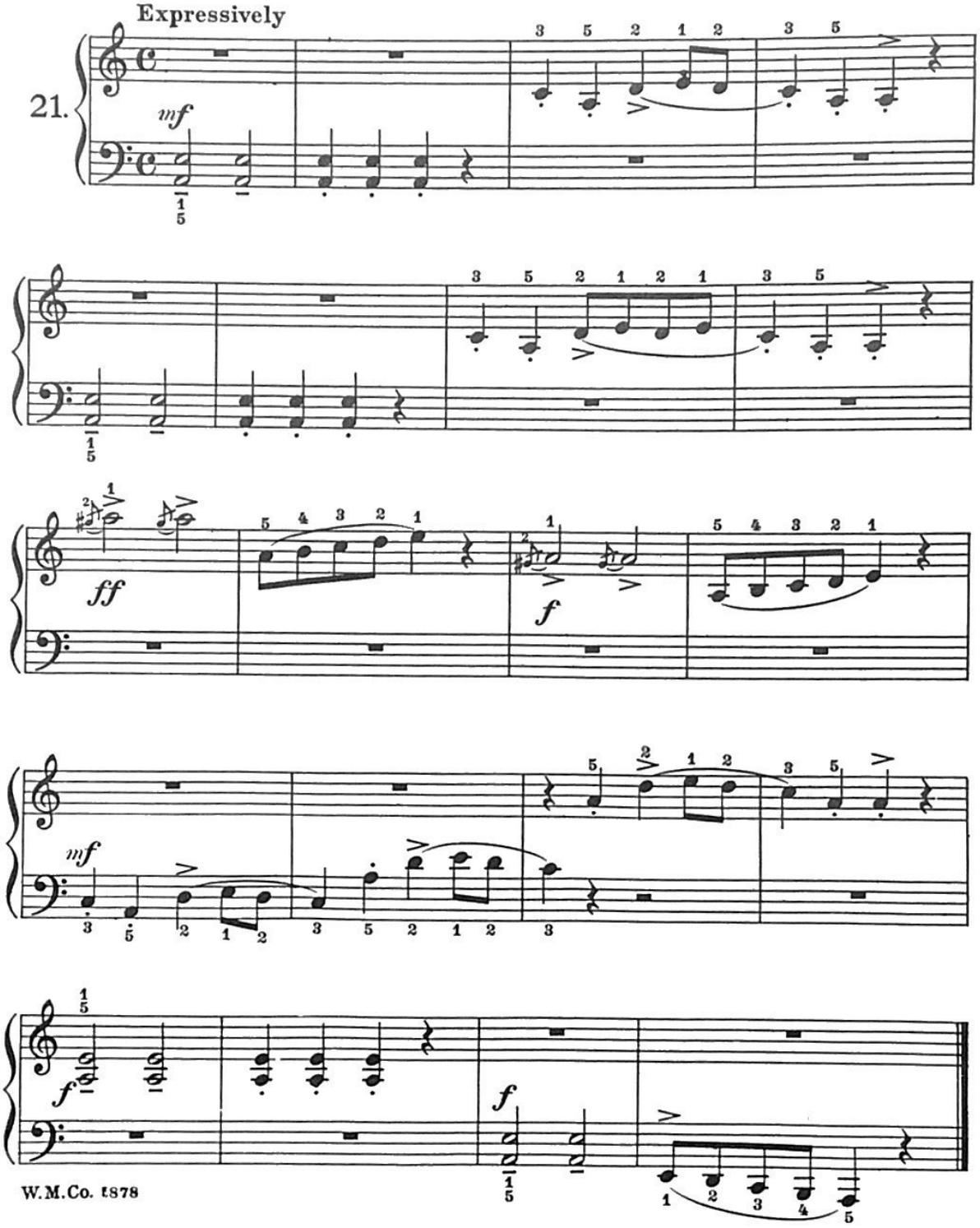
mp

f

p

A left hand study.
Make distinction between
Staccato and Sostenuto.

Rain Dance

(For Left Hand Alone)

W.M.Co. 1878

Set and preserve a galloping rhythm.
Make noticeable contrast between
mf and *p*.

O'er Hill and Dale

(A Diversion in Six-Eight)

With animation

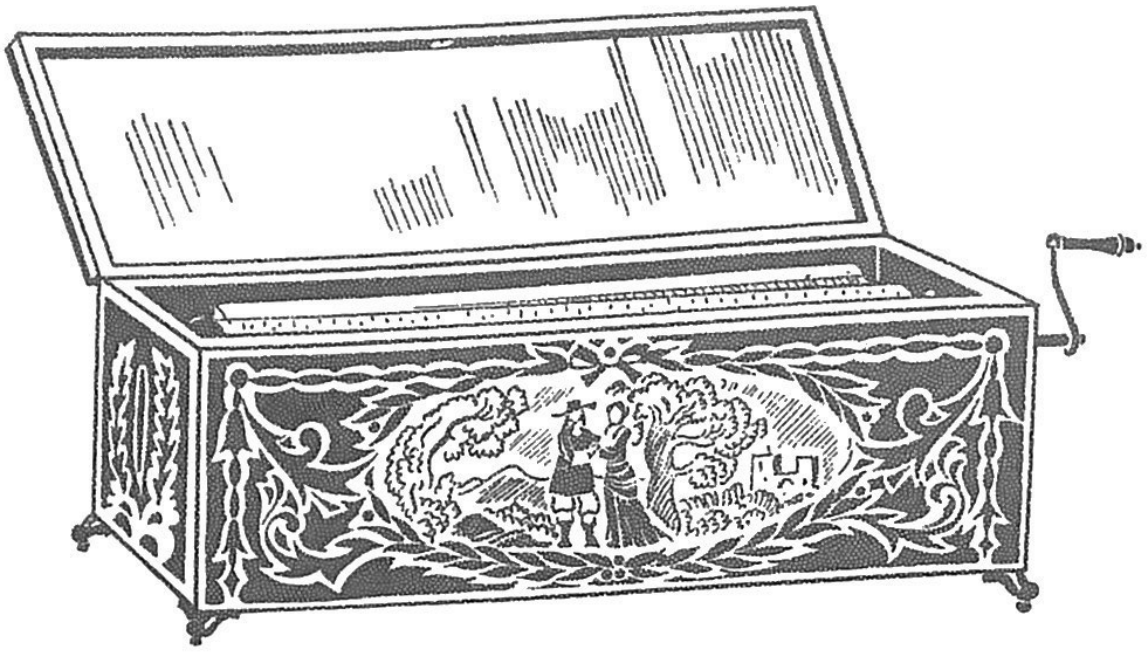
22.

mf *p* *mf*

p

p (Echo) *mf*

p (Echo) *mf* *r.h. over*



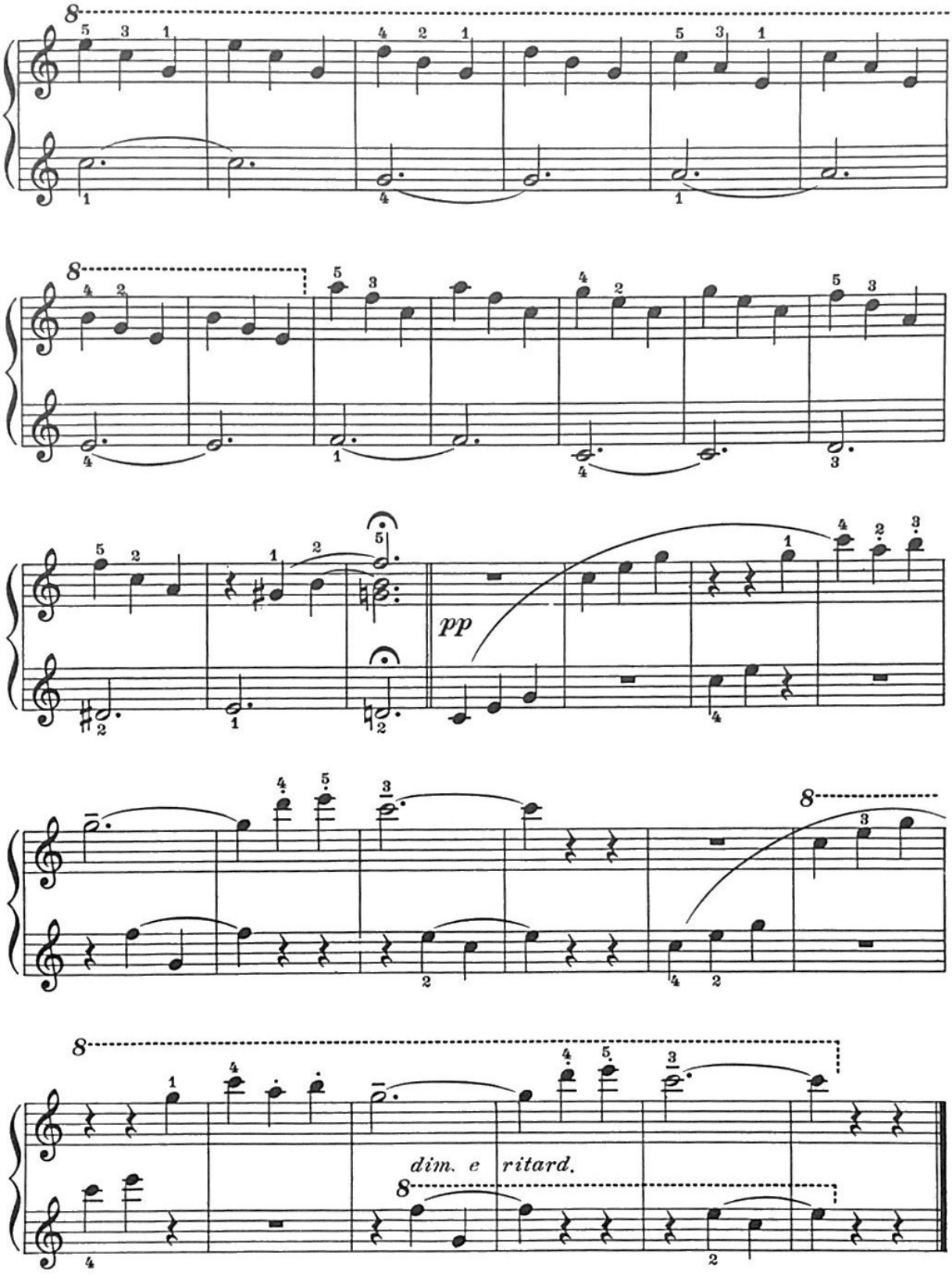
Try to produce the thin, tinkling tone of the music box.

The Music Box

(Broken Chords)

Strict Tempo

23.

pp

pp
dim. e ritard.

Use forearm attack.
Try to produce the resonance of an organ.

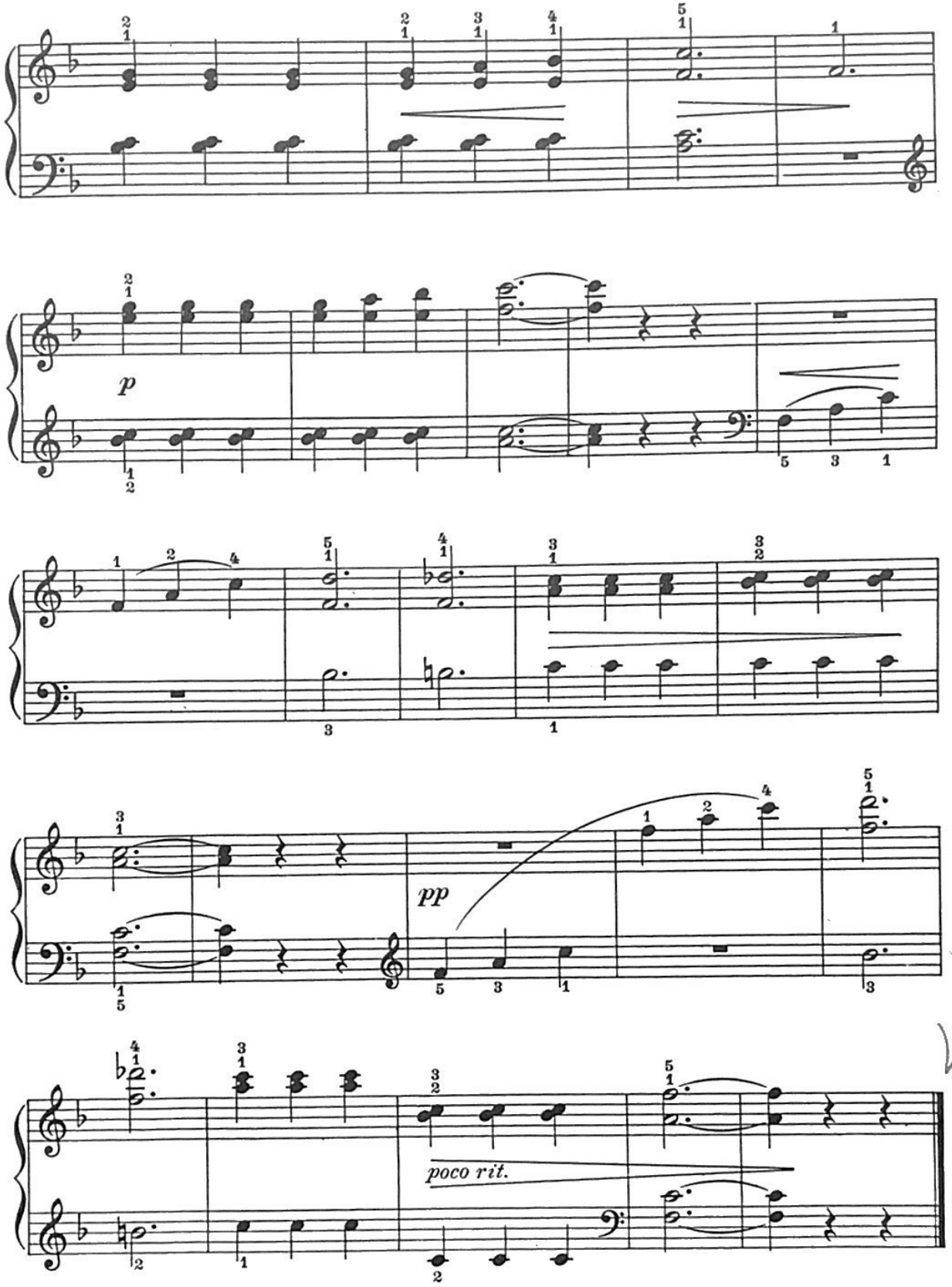
Twilight Song

(Forearm Chord Playing)

Expressively

24.

mp

p

p
pp
poco rit.

ACCOMPANIMENT ALBUMS FOR USE WITH THE JOHN THOMPSON BOOKS

TEACHING LITTLE FINGERS TO PLAY ENSEMBLE

A book of accompaniments for use with John Thompson's beginner's book "Teaching Little Fingers to Play" from The Modern Course for the Piano.

Each example has two accompaniments. One makes a piano duet to be played on one piano, four hands —with teacher or parent.

The other accompaniment is more elaborate and is arranged to be played on a Second Piano by Teacher or older pupil. The Two-Piano arrangements are ideal for recital programs.

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The material in this album is arranged for one piano, four hands. All examples are based on well-known airs and contain only notes already familiar to the Preparatory Grade Student.

The second parts are easy enough for the average parent or more advanced companion to play.

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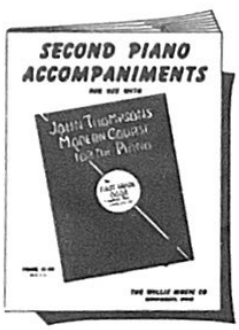
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from

The Modern Course for Piano

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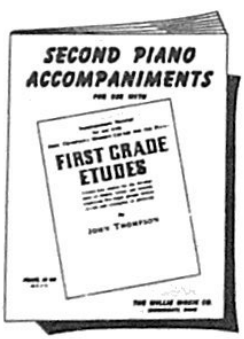
Price $1.00

SECOND PIANO ACCOMPANIMENTS

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The etudes, played by the pupil, range in difficulty from Grade 1½ to 2. The accompaniments, to be played by the teacher or more advanced student, are quite elaborate, and make ideal recital material of concert calibre when played up to tempo.

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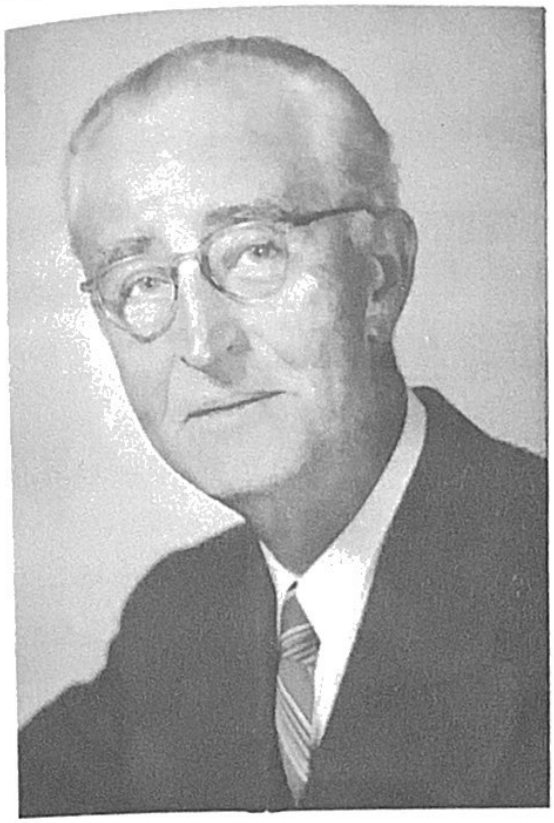

Some interesting facts about

JOHN THOMPSON

HONORS CONFERRED

DOCTOR OF MUSIC DEGREE awarded for distinguished work in furthering Musical Education by means of his Piano Teaching Material.
FELLOW OF NATIONAL COLLEGE—Toronto, Canada.

TEACHER

DIRECTOR EMERITUS—Conservatory of Music, Kansas City, Mo.
Former DIRECTOR PIANO DEPARTMENT—Indianapolis Conservatory of Music.
Former VICE-PRESIDENT—Leefson-Hille Conservatory, Philadelphia, Penna.

CONCERT PIANIST

John Thompson has made two European Concert Tours and numerous American tours and has appeared as soloist with the following well-known orchestras:

London Symphony
Boston Symphony
St. Louis Symphony
Philadelphia Orchestra
Verdi Italian Symphony
Kansas City Symphony

COMPOSER

John Thompson's teaching material, in addition to its unrivalled popularity in the United States, is widely used in CANADA, the BRITISH ISLES, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, countries in CENTRAL and SOUTH AMERICA and in far away CHINA. Special editions for some of these foreign countries have been printed. A number of his books have been transcribed and printed in Braille for the use of the blind.

JOHN THOMPSON'S STUDENTS SERIES

A carefully selected list of Teaching Pieces, suitable for use with Books 1-a and 1-b of "MELODY ALL THE WAY"

Title	*Composer*	*Key*	*Price*
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MOCCASIN DANCE	**Lois Long**	Am	.35
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Syncopated tune in the style of a Negro Spiritual.			
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TWO PIANOS — FOUR HANDS

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of

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THE FIRST GRADE BOOK (Modern Course for the Piano) or MELODY ALL THE WAY—Book 1-a followed by MELODY ALL THE WAY—Book 1-b SCALE SPELLER (Writing Book)	HANON STUDIES— Thompson edition (1st half)—To develop fundamental touches. FIRST GRADE ETUDES	FOR GIRLS WHO PLAY—Girl's book of pieces. LET'S JOIN THE ARMY—Boy's book of pieces. COVERED WAGON SUITE STUDENTS SERIES—Piano solos in Grade One
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THE FIFTH GRADE BOOK (Modern Course for the Piano)	FIFTH GRADE TECHNIC (Compiled) OCTAVE BOOK	STUDENTS SERIES—Piano Solos in Grade Five.

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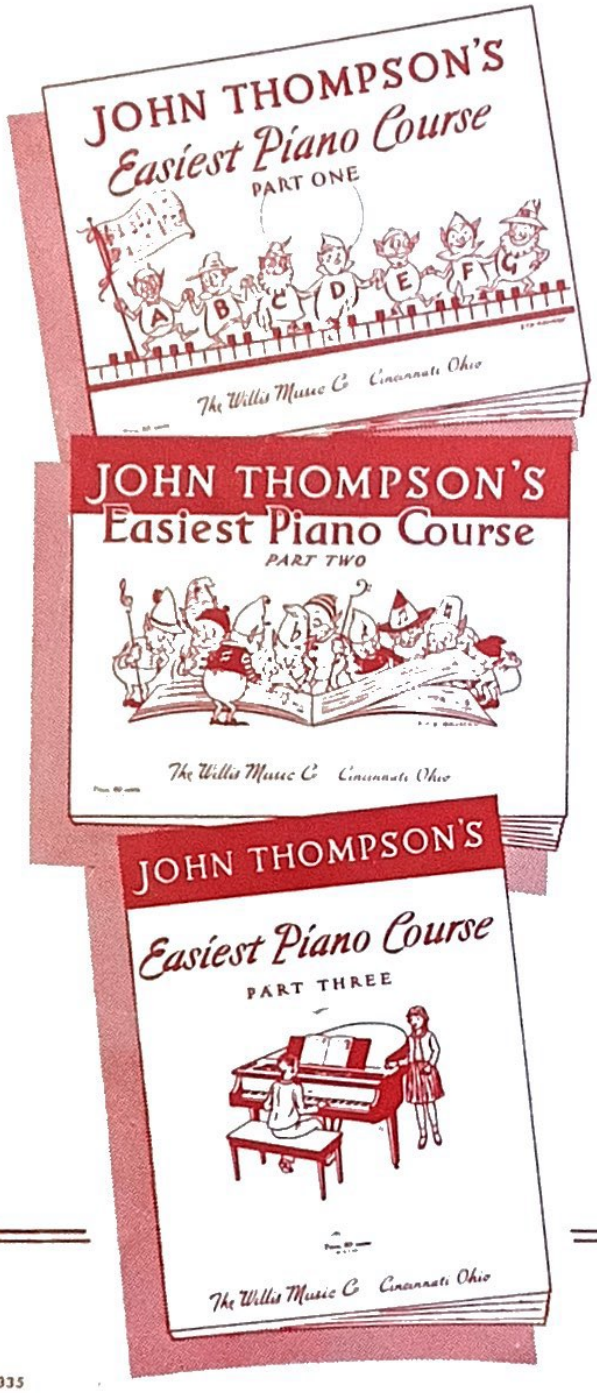
Manual 1 deals with Preparatory, First and Second Grades.
Manual 2 continues with Third, Fourth and Fifth Grades.
It has proven to be an invaluable aid to busy piano teachers.

the *EASIEST Piano Course*

by JOHN THOMPSON

★ Designed to present the easiest possible approach to Piano Playing. Its objective being to show how easily, thoroughly, entertainingly and musically—rather than how fast—a pupil can progress.



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